United Nations S/PV.5799

Security Council

Sixty-second year

Provisional

5799th meeting

Tuesday, 11 December 2007, 7.10 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Spatafora	(Italy)
Members:	Belgium	Mr. Belle
	China	Mr. Li Junhua
	Congo	Mr. Biaboroh-Iboro
	France	Mr. Lacroix
	Ghana	Mr. Christian
	Indonesia	Mr. Kleib
	Panama	Mr. Suescum
	Peru	Mr. Ruiz Rosas
	Qatar	Mr. Al-Qahtani
	Russian Federation	Mr. Dolgov
	Slovakia	Mr. Matulay
	South Africa	Mr. Sangqu
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Williams
	United States of America	Mr. Wolff

Agenda

The situation in the Middle East

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07-63890 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 7.10 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in the Middle East

The President: I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Lebanon, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the consideration of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the consideration of the item, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Salam (Lebanon) took a seat at the Council table.

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Following consultations among the members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council stresses its deep concern at the repeated postponements of the presidential election in Lebanon.

"It emphasizes that the ongoing political impasse does not serve the interest of the Lebanese people and may lead to further deterioration of the situation in Lebanon.

"The Security Council reiterates its call for the holding, without delay, of a free and fair presidential election in conformity with Lebanese constitutional rules, without any foreign interference or influence, and with full respect for democratic institutions.

"It emphasizes the importance of Lebanese constitutional institutions, including the Government of Lebanon, as well as the importance of the unity of the Lebanese people, in particular on the basis of reconciliation and political dialogue.

"It calls upon all Lebanese political parties to continue to exercise restraint and to show responsibility with a view to preventing, through dialogue, further deterioration of the situation in Lebanon.

"The Security Council therefore commends the course adopted by the democratically-elected Government of Lebanon and the Lebanese Armed Forces in carrying out their respective responsibilities in the period until the presidential election occurs.

"The Security Council reiterates its call for the full implementation of all its resolutions on Lebanon."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/2007/46.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on the agenda. The Security Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 7.15 p.m.